

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, claims 1 and 4-14 and are currently pending in this application. Claims 2, 3 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 2 and 3 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 1 for a typographical informality which has been amended as per the Examiner's suggestion. The withdrawal of the objection to the claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 4, and 7-11 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,151,860 to Reisdorff. Claims 1, 5, and 6 have been rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,697,396 to Knight. Claims 11 and 15 have been rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,420,032 to Felt.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, claim 1 should be allowable. Claims 4-10 depend upon claim 1 and should be allowable for the same reasons stated above.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite “securement means for removably securing the brace within the cavity, wherein the securement means comprise a hook member and a stop member mounted in the channel shaped cavity, the hook member and stop member each extending into an aperture formed in the brace”.

Felt discloses a box section frame member includes an upper channel-shaped member having the flanges partially telescoped into the flanges of a lower channel-shaped member. A weld connection is made at the upper edge of the lower channel-shaped member. The flanges of the lower channel-shaped member are formed with integral struck out T-shaped tabs which project inwardly and are longitudinally spaced. (See Abstract)

Felt fails to disclose a distinct hook and stop members that extend into an aperture formed in the brace as disclosed in the amended claim 11. Moreover, Felt does not teach nor disclose a bridging beam for reinstating a pole, as specifically recited in the amended claim 11.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submits that claim 11 is not anticipated by the cited reference. Claim 12-14 are depending upon claim 11 and are allowable for the same reasons explained above.

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the 35 USC §102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,860 to Reisdorff in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,994 to Knight. Claim 13 has been rejected as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. Reisdorff in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,817,342 to Beecher. Claim 14 has been rejected as unpatentable over Reisdorff in view of Beecher and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,994 to Knight.

Reisdorff and Beecher fail to disclose “a brace shaped so as to generally fit snugly in the channel shaped cavity, and securement means for removably securing the brace within the cavity, wherein the securement means comprise a hook member and a stop member mounted in the channel shaped cavity, the hook member and stop member each extending into an aperture formed in the brace”, as recited in the amended claim 11. Therefore claim 11 is non-obvious over Reisdorff and Beecher. Claims 12-14 are depended upon claim 11 and the Applicants submit

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that these claims are allowable over the cited reference of record for the same reasons provided above.

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the 103 rejection of claims 12 and 14 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application, including claims 1 and 4-14, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Knight et al.

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Enclosure